

Re. : Amendment and Response to Final Office Action Mailed May 12, 2006  
Appl. No. : 10/668,746  
Filed : September 23, 2003

**I. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listing of the claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A utility table comprising:
  - a blow-molded table top including a top surface and a bottom surface, the blow-molded table top comprising:
    - a lip extending outwardly from the bottom surface of the table top, the lip including an interior surface, an exterior surface ~~and outer surface~~, and a bottom surface; ~~and~~
    - a first connecting aperture disposed ~~formed~~ in the interior surface of the lip; and
    - a first recess formed in the exterior surface of the lip, the first recess being substantially aligned with the first connecting aperture;
  - a first sleeve including ~~having~~ a first end and a second end, the second end of the first sleeve being at least partially disposed in the first connecting aperture;
  - a first table leg;
  - a first cross bar connected to the first table leg, the first cross bar including a first end and a second end, the first end of the first cross bar being at least partially disposed in the first sleeve; ~~and~~
  - ~~a brace assembly connected to the first table leg and the bar.~~

**Please cancel Claim 2.**

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3. (Currently Amended) The utility table as recited in Claim 1 ~~claim 2~~, wherein the second end of the first sleeve is configured to engage the first recess.

4-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The utility table as recited in Claim ~~claim~~ 1, further comprising a fixing plate disposed at ~~wherein~~ the first end of the first sleeve, the fixing plate being sized and configured to abut the interior surface of the lip ~~comprises a fixing plate~~.

7. (Currently Amended) The utility table as recited in Claim ~~claim~~ 1, further comprising a plurality of grooves disposed in the bottom surface of the lip, each of the plurality of grooves including an inner portion that is sized and configured to support the first sleeve and prevent the first sleeve from contacting the bottom surface of the lip, the plurality of grooves being disposed along a length of the first sleeve ~~wherein the lip comprises at least one groove~~.

**Please cancel Claim 8.**

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9. (Currently Amended) ~~The utility table as recited in claim 1, further comprising A~~  
utility table comprising:

a blow-molded table top including a top surface and a bottom surface, the blow-  
molded table top comprising:

a lip extending outwardly from the bottom surface of the table top, the lip  
including an interior surface, an exterior surface and a bottom surface;

a first connecting aperture disposed in the interior surface of the lip; and

a second connecting aperture disposed ~~formed~~ in the exterior surface of  
the lip and being substantially aligned with the first connecting aperture;

a first sleeve including a first end and a second end, the second end of the first  
sleeve being at least partially disposed in the first connecting aperture;

a first table leg; and

a first cross bar connected to the first table leg, the first cross bar including a first  
end and a second end, the first end of the first cross bar being at least partially disposed in  
the first sleeve.

10. (Currently Amended) The utility table as recited in Claim ~~claim~~ 9, further  
comprising a second sleeve including a first end and a second end, the second end being at least  
partially disposed in the second connecting aperture and being substantially aligned with the first  
sleeve.

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11. (Currently Amended) The utility table as recited in Claim ~~claim~~ 10, wherein the first sleeve and the second sleeve are slidably engaged.

12. (Currently Amended) The utility table as recited in Claim ~~claim~~ 10, further comprising a fixing plate disposed at ~~wherein the first end of the second sleeve, the fixing plate~~  
being sized and configured to abut the interior surface of the lip ~~comprises a fixing plate.~~

13-21. (Cancelled)

**Please cancel Claims 22-39.**

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**Please add the following new claims.**

40. (New) A table comprising:

a table top constructed from blow-molded plastic, the table top including an upper surface and a lower surface;

a lip extending outwardly from the lower surface of the table top, the lip including an inner surface, an outer surface and a lower surface;

a first connecting aperture disposed in the inner surface of the lip;

a first sleeve at least partially disposed in the first connecting aperture;

a first plurality of grooves disposed in the lower surface of the lip, each of the first plurality of grooves including an inner portion that is sized and configured to support the first sleeve and prevent the first sleeve from contacting the lower surface of the lip, the first plurality of grooves being disposed along a length of the first sleeve;

a second connecting aperture disposed in the inner surface of the lip;

a second sleeve at least partially disposed in the second connecting aperture;

a second plurality of grooves disposed in the lower surface of the lip, each of the second plurality of grooves including an inner portion that is sized and configured to support the second sleeve and prevent the second sleeve from contacting the lower surface of the lip, the second plurality of grooves being disposed along a length of the second sleeve; and

a cross bar including a first portion and a second portion, the first portion of the cross bar being at least partially disposed within the first sleeve and the second portion of the cross bar being at least partially disposed within the second sleeve.

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41. (New) The table as in Claim 40, further comprising:

a first recess disposed in the outer surface of the lip, the first recess being substantially aligned with the first connecting aperture; and

a second recess disposed in the outer surface of the lip, the second recess being substantially aligned with the second connecting aperture.

42. (New) The table as in Claim 40, further comprising:

a first connecting aperture disposed in the outer surface of the lip and being substantially aligned with the first connecting aperture disposed in the inner surface of the lip; and

a second connecting aperture disposed in the outer surface of the lip and being substantially aligned with the second connecting aperture disposed in the inner surface of the lip.

43. (New) A table comprising:

a table top constructed from blow-molded plastic, the table top including an upper surface and a lower surface;

a lip extending outwardly from the lower surface of the table top, the lip including an inner surface, an outer surface and a lower surface;

a first connecting aperture disposed in the inner surface of the lip;

a first sleeve at least partially disposed in the first connecting aperture;

a first recess disposed in the outer surface of the lip, the first recess being

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substantially aligned with the first connecting aperture;

a second connecting aperture disposed in the inner surface of the lip;

a second sleeve at least partially disposed in the second connecting aperture;

a second recess disposed in the outer surface of the lip, the second recess being substantially aligned with the second connecting aperture; and

a cross bar including a first portion and a second portion, the first portion of the cross bar being at least partially disposed within the first sleeve and the second portion of the cross bar being at least partially disposed within the second sleeve.

44. (New) The table as in Claim 43, further comprising:

a first plurality of grooves disposed in the lower surface of the lip, each of the first plurality of grooves including an inner portion that is sized and configured to support the first sleeve and prevent the first sleeve from contacting the lower surface of the lip, the first plurality of grooves being disposed along a length of the first sleeve; and

a second plurality of grooves disposed in the lower surface of the lip, each of the second plurality of grooves including an inner portion that is sized and configured to support the second sleeve and prevent the second sleeve from contacting the lower surface of the lip, the second plurality of grooves being disposed along a length of the second sleeve.

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45. (New) The table as in Claim 43, further comprising:

a first connecting aperture disposed in the outer surface of the lip and being substantially aligned with the first connecting aperture disposed in the inner surface of the lip; and

a second connecting aperture disposed in the outer surface of the lip and being substantially aligned with the second connecting aperture disposed in the inner surface of the lip.

46. (New) A table comprising:

a table top constructed from blow-molded plastic, the table top including an upper surface and a lower surface;

a lip extending outwardly from the lower surface of the table top, the lip including an inner surface, an outer surface and a lower surface;

a first connecting aperture disposed in the inner surface of the lip;

a first sleeve at least partially disposed in the first connecting aperture;

a first connecting aperture disposed in the outer surface of the lip and being substantially aligned with the first connecting aperture disposed in the inner surface of the lip;

a second connecting aperture disposed in the inner surface of the lip;

a second sleeve at least partially disposed in the second connecting aperture;

a second connecting aperture disposed in the outer surface of the lip and being substantially aligned with the second connecting aperture disposed in the inner surface of



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the lip; and

a cross bar including a first portion and a second portion, the first portion of the cross bar being at least partially disposed within the first sleeve and the second portion of the cross bar being at least partially disposed within the second sleeve.

47. (New) The table as in Claim 46, further comprising:

a first recess disposed in the outer surface of the lip, the first recess being substantially aligned with the first connecting aperture; and

a second recess disposed in the outer surface of the lip, the second recess being substantially aligned with the second connecting aperture.

48. (New) The table as in Claim 46, further comprising:

a first plurality of grooves disposed in the lower surface of the lip, each of the first plurality of grooves including an inner portion that is sized and configured to support the first sleeve and prevent the first sleeve from contacting the lower surface of the lip, the first plurality of grooves being disposed along a length of the first sleeve; and

a second plurality of grooves disposed in the lower surface of the lip, each of the second plurality of grooves including an inner portion that is sized and configured to support the second sleeve and prevent the second sleeve from contacting the lower surface of the lip, the second plurality of grooves being disposed along a length of the second sleeve.